

# THE *Camping* MAGAZINE

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Volume V

OCTOBER, 1932

Number One

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## Transition!

*Like the Rest of the World the Camping Movement  
Is Passing Through a Period of Transition*

IT IS exactly 50 years since the first known private camp was organized,—Camp Chocoura in 1881,—and this half century anniversary is marked by a golden opportunity to Camps and Camp Directors. Just as it would seem that civilization—the economic, moral, social and political structure of society—faces a vital and unprecedented crisis, so does Education and the Camping Movement as a newly recognized but important phase of education, similarly face a critical period. This is a period of transition from a half century of groping experimentation to what should be a period of understanding and comprehension of the educational possibilities of the Camp, and above all of a more enlightened, intelligent and aggressive application of the principles learned during these years of haphazard but prayerful groping.

With the rest of the world and with the camping movement, the Camp Directors Association of America and this magazine—THE CAMPING MAGAZINE,—its official mouthpiece, are similarly passing through an important period of transition. The Association under its new officers, and this magazine should be the medium of expression of all enlightened and forward-looking camp directors of America, and should seek to be in the forefront of a progressive and aggressive movement in the interest of Camping,—in the interest of that form of new, progressive education which will recognize the camp as a potent, necessary and invaluable instrument in the development of our boys and girls into enlightened, thoughtful, cultured men and women of the new civilization.

Advantage of this unique opportunity can be taken only if camp directors throughout the country will recognize their opportunity and realize and accept their duty as well as their privilege to participate in a united and aggressive campaign to that end.

The Camp Directors Association of America invites the co-operation not only of its present members, but through you its present members, it invites the co-operation of every earnest, intelligent and progressive director or counselor in the country to join forces with us, to enlist in our search for enlightenment and understanding, and in our campaign for the highest development of Camping as a potent factor in modern education. This co-operation can be given not alone by joining the Association. You must be active in your affiliation. You must be constructive in your help. The Association needs you,—the Movement needs you,—and above all, this magazine which we hope to make the audible and aggressive and dominant voice of Educational Camping needs you and your help to make itself heard.

Come join forces with us in the interests of our youth and make yourself felt and heard in the aggressive campaign which, together, we seek to wage for the Camping of the future.

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## The Report of the Committee of Seven

THE AMENDMENTS to the Constitution and By-Laws as presented by the Committee of Seven in its final report last May have been voted upon by the required twenty-five per cent of the active paid-up membership as required by Article IX, Section 2, of the Constitution of the Camp Directors Association of America. The vote was as follows:

Number required for vote (25% of active, paid-up members)	78
Total number of votes received to date . . . . .	149
Affirmative votes . . . . .	131
Negative votes . . . . .	7
Divided votes . . . . .	11

The response in voting has been splendid, almost fifty per cent of the active membership having participated. Since the vote was overwhelmingly in the affirmative, we now have a new Constitution.

Most of the changes cannot go into effect until the next Annual meeting, but the following become operative at once:

1. Our name is now the Camp Directors Association of America.
2. The new schedule of National dues will go into effect as of October 1, 1932, when annual statements are rendered to members. The dues are five dollars a year for Active members and three dollars for Associate members.
3. Membership in the Camp Directors Association of America is now primarily national as it is not obligatory to join a Section also. To join a Section, however, one must join the National Organization.

The provisions with regard to the enlarged Executive Committee, the separating of the office of Secretary-Treasurer, and the establishment of a Board of Advisors must wait until the next Annual meeting.

With the wide extension of membership there will be many now eligible who have not hitherto qualified. The members are urged to make this a personal matter and to bring to the attention of others the advantages of membership so that we may have the benefit of their ability as we work out our problems.

## A Look Ahead

By EMILY H. WELCH

**A**NOTHER camp season is over and it is time to take stock so that the winter experience may count toward increased efficiency next summer. We must all do this personally in connection with our individual camps and it is good to do it as Camp Directors Association of America members also. The effectiveness of our organization is of course dependent upon the contribution that each one of us can make. If we could, and would, each ask ourselves "What am I giving to the Camp Directors Association of America?" the question of "What I am getting from it?" would take care of itself. This is a point that we all make with our own campers and it behooves us to practice what we preach.

As I look back over the years during which I have been associated with the Camp Directors Association of America, there stands out a not very large group of people, pioneers in the idea of working together, who have worked long and untiringly to think out the best path for the organization to take. The fact that anyone, however inadequately prepared as a leader of young people, could and indeed can still start a camp makes it a difficult problem to establish standards with only public opinion to enforce them. Much has been accomplished in spite of this but it has been a discouraging road, frequently. As a compensation for such discouragement, however, they have been years of very pleasant association and give and take between the like-minded.

In the meantime throughout the country the camping idea has taken hold of the imagination and interest of all ages and all kinds of people. The Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts, the Y.M.C.A. and Y.W.C.A. and other such groups were forced, perhaps, to meet the problem squarely but what is more likely to be true, they awoke

at once to the inherent possibilities therein. Whatever their reason they have attacked the problem with vigor and intelligence and they are ready to share with the private camp director the vast fund of information and material that is based upon their experience. Their numbers alone make this material unusually valuable and in addition when one has the privilege of knowing their leaders, one recognizes at once the educational vision that has been their guiding influence.

The private camp director cannot afford to underestimate what is knocking at his door. To be ignorant of, or oblivious to the progress which the organization camp movement has made means that such a one is missing much that would benefit his own campers.

But, there are two sides to the picture. The private camp director who is playing a lone hand and is therefore unhampered by necessarily cumbersome organization methods has to my mind an even greater chance to test the value of new ideas in camping. He can dare to go adventuring in the field and many men and women are doing this very thing. All over the country there are to be found experiments in program-making to determine how much independence of choice the adolescent can handle wisely, the activities that are best suited to the different age groups, the most healthful balance between relaxation and activity, how much music and poetry and reading can be incorporated in the daily plan of a camp that does not specialize in one of these, and other like ideas. There are experiments in camp organization, in self government, in teaching methods for the various camp activities and so on ad libitum. Here too, is growing up an ever-increasing wealth of experience which is just as valuable as the organization experience.

Unfortunately this fund seems at present to be unavailable and therefore untapped. The organizations have their publicity men and women who know the methods of presenting material so that "all who run may read." The private camp director hides his light under a bushel.

This should not and must not be. In the past, fear of competition has been an inhibiting influence but with the movement growing so rapidly it becomes increasingly evident that, just as the pace is set by the slowest walker, so camps in general will be judged by the calibre of the least enlightened. The private camp director must make available for all what he is learning through living and working with, for two months every summer, a group of active, enthusiastic, vigorous, young human beings, who for the most part (and I thank the gods that is so) react positively to the things that are for their best growth. To clarify this experience in our own minds by trying to put it down on paper will help whoever does it immensely and he will have the added pleasure of trying to give it to his fellow-men to share.

Furthermore, the private camp directors have been woefully lacking in presenting to the public an adequate picture of what camps are really doing. The average parent is at a loss when the question of "what camp?" arises and he does not know where to turn for a basis upon which to judge intelligently. The school principal who realizes that camps are making an educational contribution is certainly the exception and ministers in general are decidedly skeptical of their spiritual contribution. The home, the school, the church—all of them of vital importance to the camp; the home eager for first-hand reliable knowledge, the church and the school ready and willing, I believe, to co-operate with the camp director, espe-

cially as the summer at camp with its infinite possibilities and dangers becomes more and more an accepted part of the child's year. In the two months when the camp director has the child's whole time, much can be carried on or undone and the principal and minister know this only too well. Co-operation is the only way and it must be intelligent co-operation based on mutual knowledge.

As I look forward, therefore, certain needs stand out in perspective. Within our own group there must be as much give and take as possible between the private camp directors and those interested in the organization camp. The experience of each must be made available for the other and a committee will be appointed to devise ways and means of bringing this about.

We must go out beyond ourselves too. We must gather material from which a leaflet for parents may be prepared. There is so much of our work that fathers and mothers will not know until we tell them about it in an entertaining way. There is much that parents now think about camp that must be eradicated from their minds by a clear presentation of facts.

This is true also of school principals and we must make it possible for them to know us as we really are and to know what we are trying to do. We must convince them that their goal and ours is the same. Mr. Philip Cobb's article in this number will tell you of an excellent beginning that was made this summer and upon which we can build in the immediate future, I hope.

So there is much to do and what is accomplished this year will depend upon how much each one of us puts into the organization. I bid you all welcome to a share in the adventure and I shall hope to be deluged with letters of suggestion and indications of the kind of share you can best do.

## News of the Sections

### MID-WEST SECTION

The Camping season is over! October is in the air!

Have we an easy chair in our city home, and a real log fire? Then we'll want a favorite book at hand and a pipe if so inclined. And, watching flame and shadows, we will soon be back in camp . . . our camp. . . .

"Was it really a success?" . . .

"Is camping worthwhile?" . . .

"Are we ready to quit?" . . .

Most of us must admit to financial failure for 1932,—at least in comparison to other years. But that's decidedly all! The smaller numbers, and the universal depression with its deeper interest in our fellow-man, has given our camp a happier summer, and a more satisfactory summer, than ever before.

And we are NOT quitting! Not by a jugful! Rather are we going forth as militant camp enthusiasts raising the banner of progress, and calling to those who would drop along the way!

"Camp WAS worthwhile! Financial loss is not the sum-total of existence; and we were never more ready to carry on! But we have learned many things this past hard year that we would share with you—whoever you are and wherever you may be!"

"The spirit of the forests, waters and the heavens has made us better men and better women, and better camp directors than a year ago. Our own standards have become higher by our smaller number and deeper thought. We know that yours must be. Then, why try to regulate the actions of others by our own yardsticks? Can't we be happier when holding out a hand of welcome to all who love camping and say:

"Come, play with us, work with us, meet with us during the winters in which we must be in cities and away from our camps; and let us find and prove together the deeper truths which we each have experienced in our past summer out-of-doors."

Then our winter meetings will be joyous affairs whether they be small social groups, or sectional or national conferences. And the Comradeship of Happiness and Better Understanding which such a winter will give us would be reflected in a more joyous camp summer for 1933 and closer co-operation of us all.

FELICITAS S. BISHOP, President.

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### NEW ENGLAND SECTION

During the camping season each member of the Section was sent a multigraphed copy of the address given by Dr. Arthur M. Greenwood on "Impetigo Contagiosa" at the closing meeting on April 23. The practical suggestions given by Dr. Greenwood were incorporated and therefore, greatly appreciated by the members. It is the purpose of the Section to issue a number of pamphlets dealing with subjects every director is seeking the latest information upon.

A 14-page multigraphed report of the meetings held last season was presented to the members. Miss Lucille Rogers, the Recording Secretary, received many expressions of thanks for the excellence of the report.

The Section will hold three meetings this season—November 26, January 28, and April 22. The general topic, "The Future of Organized Camping," will form the basis of each program. On November 26, the sub-topic will be "Lessons Learned from the Past Season's Experience" and many interesting experiences will be related by the members.

The new officers for 1932-33 are: H. W. Gibson, President, Rev. E. J. Dennen, Vice-President, Lucille Rogers, Recording Secretary, Rae Frances Baldwin, Secretary-Treasurer. The membership at the close of the season was 138. The receipts were \$663.46 and the expenditures were \$416.95, leaving a balance on hand of

\$246.51. 150 members is the goal for this season.

Meetings are being planned by the Men's Round Table Group and the Women's Group. Also a series of Seminars for Counselors will be conducted by the Section.

H. W. GIBSON, *President.*

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### NEW YORK SECTION

Plans for the program of the New York Section, as announced by the Board of Directors last June include a series of seven meetings in addition to the National Convention. The Section will hold its second convention in New York City in early December and another Camp Exposition is planned for April, 1933. The first fall meeting to be held in mid-October will offer an opportunity to review the experiences of the camp season of 1932 and to study its lessons. An open forum for general discussion will be held and a large attendance of camp directors is expected.

The prospects for an unusually busy year are very bright. The Section is most fortunate in having a Board that is broadly representative of the camping movement in the East, as well as full of enthusiasm to forward every constructive move to build up a strong national camp directors association.

During the summer months we have urged all of our members to consider and vote upon the Report of the Committee of Seven which was presented so promptly and executed so ably by Dr. Fretwell and his assistants on the Committee last May. The importance of acting on this report before the new fiscal year begins on October 1st, is very great—in view of present financial conditions, especially as they are reflected in the C.D.A.A. The New York Section wishes to co-operate fully with all other sections in building up a strong and useful National Organization.

WALLACE GREENE ARNOLD, *President.*

### PACIFIC SECTION

#### 1933 CONFERENCE

The Annual Conference will again represent the most important activity of the Section. To this Conference come approximately 300 camp people from the western states of Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Utah and Arizona. The attendance is comprised very largely of directors and counselors from organization camps. There is a representation, though small, from private camps and municipal camps.

The 1933 Conference will be held again at Asilomar, California, on the beautiful national Y. W. C. A. Conference Grounds situated on the shores of the Pacific Ocean about 100 miles from San Francisco. The dates which were set at the last conference are March 16, 17, 18 and 19. Under the direction of Raymond Hanson, Chairman of the Conference Committee, it is planned again to invite an outstanding camp authority as guest speaker. Bernard Mason served in that capacity in 1931 and A. E. Hamilton in 1932. The membership enjoyed and profited very much by the point-of-view of these "outside" speakers.

As in the past, leaders of the various national organizations will be invited to head up the various sections on camp skills. These sections are Indian Craft, Handicraft, Dramatics and Story Telling, Camp Craft, Indian Lore, Life Saving. In accordance with the desire of the membership for small groups having common camping interests, discussion groups will again be established for Private Camps, Organization Camps, Municipal Camps and Counselors. The Conference has shown an increasing interest in the educational processes at work in camp, while at the same time it maintains its interest in camp techniques.

#### CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

Again a special effort is to be made in securing as large an attendance as possible for 1933. Excellent co-operation to

this end has been secured from the Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Camp Fire Girls. The Y. M. C. A. group plan on recommending that their Boys' Work Conference take place immediately prior to the Camp Conference. The Section is still at work compiling from all available sources, a list of camps and directors of the Pacific Coast to whom notices are to be sent. Students in the Physical Education Department of the Universities, Board of Directors, Educators, will also be contacted.

#### PUBLICITY

The Section feels that publicity for the camping movement needs to be stressed more than ever before and will devote much of its efforts in this direction. The Section will continue to issue its quarterly "Camping Bulletin", which will contain news of camps, conference proceedings, reviews of new camp books, discussion of techniques and record of progress of the camping movement generally. This Bulletin has served very well to maintain contact with camp directors thruout the year.

With funds secured from Conference Exhibit fees, the Association hopes to be in a position to engage a publicity director, whose job it would be, thru newspaper, radio, magazine, to acquaint the general public with the important place camping plays in the life of youth. Stress is to be laid on the fact that in terms of mental and physical health, character growth, life interests and joy, camping can achieve invaluable results for the boy or girl, the family and society at large. Emphasis will also be laid on the fact that camping has passed beyond the fad and frill stage and is beginning to establish itself as a necessary institution.

#### COUNSELORS

The need for trained counselors has been felt very definitely by the Pacific Section. It has planned to secure the appointment of a committee which will formulate the plans for the organization of counselor training courses at the col-

leges and universities on the coast or under the auspices of the Section itself. These courses will be particularly provided for men. Mills College has conducted such courses for girl counselors since 1926 under the direction of Miss Rosalind Cassidy, head of the Physical Education Department and a former president of the Pacific Section.

The Association has grown in numbers, in enthusiasm and interest since its organization in 1925. Its members feel very definitely that much is to be gained in information and inspiration. The Annual Conference is always eagerly looked forward to. The Conference affords directors the opportunity to get together in a spirit of friendly co-operation and mutual helpfulness.

LOUIS H. BLUMENTHAL, *President.*

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#### PENNSYLVANIA SECTION

We have all gone through a difficult year—one that has called forth our best efforts. The experience has taught us much but primarily the necessity for co-operation; that pulling together which puts a job over efficiently, quietly and with genuine satisfaction.

The coming year has exceptional possibilities for the Pennsylvania Section. Not only is there an opportunity for growth but there is present a real desire to expand and improve. The following outline will serve to indicate the activities for the coming months:

1. Committee and individual efforts to provide material for a permanent exhibit on behalf of private camps.
2. Correlating available information relative to the past year's experience in order to benefit by our mistakes and share in being better prepared for the future.
3. Committee and individual efforts to correlate definite findings and recommendations concerning director and counselor training in co-operation with the field of education.

4. Concerted effort on the part of all to increase our counselor and director membership.
5. Co-operation with the national office in preparing for the coming national convention—as well as by contributing to the publication, *The Camping Magazine*.

CHAUNCEY G. PAXSON, *President.*

#### SOUTHERN SECTION

It was evident to those who attended the last three annual meetings of the Southern Section of the C.D.A.A., that the Southern Section has struck a new stride and caught a broader vision of its function and purpose. The fine fellowship, and the helpful and inspirational programs of these meetings gave the directors present a new sense of the dignity and worth of their profession, a greater zeal for their work, and a determination to make their camps mean more to the boys and girls who attend them.

The same fine fellowship, helpful exchange of ideas, and sharing of experience characterized the mid-summer meetings of the Southern Section held at Camp Sequoyah, September 3rd and 4th. The program for this meeting was planned so as to have no speeches. In addition to several hours devoted to social purposes which included a camp fire supper and square dance accompanied by mountain fiddlers, about seven hours were devoted to round table discussions. Among the topics discussed were:

1. The responsibility the Southern Section will have in connection with the 1933 National Convention to be held in the South next March.
2. The 1933 Annual Meeting of the Southern Section to be held in conjunction with the National Meeting.
3. The Second Annual Counselors' Training Institute for Southern Counselors to be held at Blue Ridge, N. C., June 1933.
4. A new Code of Ethics for members of the Southern Section.

5. A program of publicity sponsored by the Southern Section, which will acquaint the clientele of southern camps with the ideas and standards, provisions for health and safety programs and type of leadership of the better southern camps. It is hoped through such publicity to enable prospective camp patrons to be more discriminating in the choice of a camp.

The first Southern Counselors' Training Institute held at Blue Ridge, N. C., June 16-26 was a signal success. Our hopes and ambitions for this first Institute were more than realized. The need for such counselor training had long been felt, and the response was splendid. The Counselors and Directors who attended felt that a significant step for the training of Southern counselors has been taken, and that the Blue Ridge Institute has great potentialities.

The Southern Section is looking forward with great anticipation to the 1933 National Convention to be held in the South next March. The leadership is on the outside and it is hoped that the other sections will be represented by large delegations.

C. WALTON JOHNSON, *President.*

#### THE SOUTHWESTERN SECTION

The Southwestern Section, despite the depression, had a very successful year. The campers got real camping. After all, perhaps the depression was something that was necessary to awaken Camp Directors and Counselors, as we were drifting with the stream of easy goers and soft living, and were getting away from real camping. A great many frills were taken off this year, which did not hurt the camps, and the children were able to gain a deeper knowledge of the Art of Camping.

Much has been said about the floods in the Guadalupe district this year. The newspapers wrote up stirring stories of how the waters were sweeping everything

(Please turn to page 18)

# The Camping Magazine

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CAMP DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA*

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CAMP DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION  
OF AMERICA

RAYMOND F. PURCELL, *Secretary-Treasurer*  
551 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

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## A SPECIAL OFFER!

*To introduce*

"THE CAMPING MAGAZINE"  
to all Counselors in our Camps is  
made to Camp Directors during  
October and November only

(See Page 18)

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## Editorial Comment

MR. H. W. GIBSON has resigned as Editor of THE CAMPING MAGAZINE. As his tenure of office comes to a close the Executive Committee feels that this is a fitting time to recognize publicly the years of untiring effort and enthusiasm that he has devoted to the building up of our Organization publication and to express what they are sure the members all feel—a deep appreciation of the benefit that has come to each one of them as the result of Mr. Gibson's work.

Pending the appointment of a new editor to take the place so ably filled by Mr. Gibson, the Executive Committee will assume the editorial supervision of THE CAMPING MAGAZINE and the policy will remain unchanged. It is a pleasure to announce that in the meantime and until a permanent Editorial policy can be adopted, Mr. Frederick L. Guggenheim has consented to supervise the assembling and editing of the material included in this and immediately subsequent issues. The co-operation of all members and friends in contributing articles and items of interest is earnestly requested.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

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## Page for Parents

It is hoped that by the time the next issue goes to press arrangements can be made for the inclusion of a page of the above title which should and will contain material of special interest to parents. THE CAMPING MAGAZINE representing, we hope, the best thoughts of those interested in camping as a factor in modern education, will be of value not only to those actively engaged in camping, but ought to be of equal interest to thoughtful parents concerned in the education of their children. Material and suggestions are invited from those reading this word, whether they be parents of children attending camps or men and women actively engaged in camping itself.

## An English Guider's Impressions of American Camping

By CYNTHIA MARY STOCKER

EVERY year the Camp Directors Association of America through the English Speaking Union, invites a representative of the English Girl Guides to spend about 6 weeks as their guest, to study and learn about camping conditions in the United States of America. This year I was fortunate enough to be given this wonderful opportunity and spent 6 weeks staying in 10 different camps in New York State and the New England States.

The first 2 camps in which I stayed were Girl Scout Camps—one being in Bear Mountain Park, and in this there was a most successful and constructive system of counselor training. I also visited 12 other camps in the Park, and was most impressed by their very thorough organization. The next was the Girl Scout National Headquarters Camp for girls. This was far more like our English Girl Guide camps than any others I saw, being decentralised and run in small units or troops of about 20 girls, with their own counselors. They did all their own cooking and camp capers—which was not very arduous for such a small number. This “troop camping” is being much advocated by the Girl Scout authorities and is most successful.

All the other camps in which I stayed were Private Camps each with its individual charm, its own traditions and customs, built up during many years, some having been founded nearly 30 years ago. I soon realised that, in such camps one meets the very finest type of American, cultured and broad-minded—and with the most delightful sense of humour!)

Our English children would, I am sure, be consumed with envy if they realised what a wonderful time their American cousins have during their 2 months in

camp, with their swimming, canoeing, sailing, games, riding, archery, dancing and above all the expeditions and overnight trips.

Having only experienced primitive one-week camps at home, my first impression was that these camps were rather vast and civilised—with their trained dietitians, codes, refrigerators, offices, stenographers, card indexes, and typewriters. But I soon realised the necessity for all this organisation for a two months camp of this size, and the need for such precautions when taking care of other peoples' children. Moreover, the campers get the primitive side of camping in the overnight trips, canoeing expeditions and mountain climbs, when they are really “up against” things and learn to fend for themselves, developing self-reliance, self-control and initiative.

I shall take back to England many very happy memories of the camps, and their individual charms. Among these being:—

A camp on the side of a mountain, overlooking a broad river—where many progressive experiments were being successfully tried out and one saw tangible results—through applied psychology. . . .

A camp on the very top of a hill, with wonderful view of distant lakes, the sun setting behind a mountain range 65 miles away—a most impressive Indian council fire, true ceremony, everyone dancing her part and playing it without fuss.

A “brother and sister” camp, with an exceptionally nice set of counselors. Separate camps—meeting occasionally for games.

A camp by the ocean, with its invigorating salt water swimming—lovely sunsets reflected in the bay—a Vesper Service,

taken entirely by the girls—an overnight trip on the sand dunes with sailing ships passing on the dark blue Atlantic—the beauty of a sudden thunderstorm, and later the full moon rising over the Ocean.

A camp among tall pine trees on the very edge of a huge lake—a programme that was really elastic—wonderful hand-craft-shops and a library in which the girls spent many happy leisure hours.

A camp on an island in the middle of a lake, really secluded—a most enterprising camp which specialised in trips of all kinds and had an elastic programme whereby every girl chose her own activities (this though possibly more difficult to work at first amply justified the initial trouble). Excellent singing, with the rather negative but praiseworthy virtue of not singing songs which said their own camp was the "best ever".

A camp on a hillside, with wonderful views and closely connected with a very charming old New England village.

A camp Banquet, the like of which I have never seen—where we were enthralled by a succession of witty speeches and hilariously funny stunts. The after-camp season with its happy family atmosphere, inspiring (and delightfully humorous) talks by the director at morning assembly—the Eclipse, which we all saw in the greatest comfort and enjoyed to the utmost, having been told (in simple language) what to look out for and shown how to appreciate it.

To sum up—one realised that, through personal contact with the campers and through a well-balanced programme the Directors are indeed helping every boy and girl to develop mentally and physically and to live the fullest, richest lives of which they are capable.

## Do *all* your Counselors read "THE CAMPING MAGAZINE" regularly?

*Why not present each of them with a yearly subscription?*

It costs only \$2.00 for nine issues. Your counselors will get new ideas which will help to make your camp program better. They will become more professionally minded when they learn more of the problems of organized camping. The best way to keep counselors in touch with the new developments in the camping movement is to see that they get our official magazine regularly.

*Six yearly subscriptions for only \$10.00*

To introduce "THE CAMPING MAGAZINE" to all counselors in our camps, this special offer is made to camp directors. (This offer is good during October and November only.)

Won't you send us NOW the names of your counselors to whom you would like "THE CAMPING MAGAZINE" sent regularly?

COUNSELORS' NAMES

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ADDRESSES

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.....

You may bill the above Counselors' subscriptions to me.

NAME OF DIRECTOR ..... ADDRESS .....

The CAMPING MAGAZINE  
551 Fifth Avenue New York City

## A Plea for Closer and More Personal Co-operation Between School and Camp Leaders in the Education of Youth

By PHILIP COBB, Director

Camp Winona, Denmark, Maine

As July camping days drew to a close and opportunity arose for close scrutiny of results accomplished and good rendered our campers in their first summer month, we were blessed by the coming of a small group of school headmasters for two days of intensive conference. And that was not all of it. We talked and ate and played together. We sailed and swam and sang together. We gathered by crackling campfires. We shared experiences. We "swapped" yarns. We had a good time.

Every boy and every counselor participated, rejoiced in the opportunity to render some small courtesy and received rich reward in stimulating friendship, new vision, and a clearer understanding that headmasters do not necessarily always sit on Mount Olympus. To be sure, we did withdraw quite occasionally, but hardly with awesome mien, to some mid-distant spot where the cool shade of the friendly groves encouraged us to sit on carpets of soft pine needles and discuss aims and methods and problems. And we talked about everything frankly and earnestly, everything pertaining to camps and camping as related to children and schools. The experience was illuminating and extremely stimulating, productive of much pondering and much constructive thinking. It predicated the probability of other such gatherings. It prophesied greater helpfulness to children through closer co-operation between school leaders and camp directors.

Without further introduction let me outline briefly a few of the more emphatic suggestions made by these visitors.

1. School Leaders are not only willing but eager to co-operate with Camp Directors.

- a. Let each report to the other the characteristics, capabilities, and needs of each child with definite suggestions for mutual helpfulness.
- b. Let each make certain that the appropriate counselors and teachers receive these reports and act upon them.
- c. Let each, perhaps through the medium of The Headmasters' Association, The Headmistresses' Association, and the Camp Directors' Association advise as to speakers and entertainers best qualified to render inspiration as visiting specialists.

### 2. Camp Objectives.

- a. Health and Safety above all.
- b. An essential background of wholesome, cultural and vigorous character influences.
- c. A real study of the individual camper and an intelligent program to meet his personal needs.
- d. A maximum of concentration to stimulate love and understanding of nature.
- e. Carefully selected group reading and opportunity for individual recourse to good books with the possibility of receiving school credits.
- f. Opportunity for each camper to develop his own interests and exert his own initiative.
- g. Emphasis to be laid on music and other stimulating aesthetic influences.
- h. The spiritual influences be made a part of the essence of camp living but carefully not overemphasized.
- i. Small group discussions be stimulated on varied subjects.

- j. Parents be made to feel an intimate advisory relation to every camp detail as much as possible but be advised to visit infrequently.
- 3. Camp Dangers.
  - a. Overorganization. (Much was said on this subject.)
  - b. Overformality.
  - c. Carelessness in vigilance for:
    - (1) Absolute safety in aquatics; on trips.
    - (2) Expert medical diagnosis and complete isolation in contagious diseases.
    - (3) Attention to minor infections; to rest and relaxation.
    - (4) The maintenance of personal courtesy and good manners.
    - (5) The corrupting influences of vulgarity and profanity.
  - d. Too much mass attention; too little individual.
  - e. Too little opportunity for cultivating individual initiative.
  - f. Overfamiliarity between campers and counselors.
- 4. Other Notations.
  - a. All children should have camping opportunities under good leaders.
  - b. Country Day School children should attend camp as many summers as possible.
- c. Boarding School boys and girls should attend camp only when adverse home conditions make such advisable.
- d. Seven or eight years of age is an excellent time to start camping.
- e. At thirteen or fourteen the absence from camp for a summer or two may or may not prove advisable.
- f. The greatest good may be rendered campers of fifteen to eighteen. Friendly discipline and control are important but special programs should be arranged for advanced work permitting certain freedom and independence with less formality and routine but close supervision for safety.

This visit and its intimate discussions combined with the subsequent advent of several other intensely interested private school leaders, gave us encouragement in our undertakings and many a pause for thought as to our essential failings. Most significantly it stimulated the hope that such a beginning might lead to a more intimate and understanding co-operation between schools and camps, perhaps to immediate collaboration between these educational groups to perfect a plan whereby each might supplement the other more perfectly in the education of children.

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## Of Human Interest

CONTRIBUTIONS are invited of live, human stories of incidents occurring in Camp during the past summer, of Camp poems, or brief statements of special achievements involving personality or character expression, as a result of camp life and contacts. Whenever possible, these contributions will be used in this new page in the CAMPING MAGAZINE.

The following poem was written by a sixteen year old lad in Camp during the past summer, and was read by him during the final camp fire ceremony of the year on the night before camp disbanded. It was a beautiful night; the flames of an enormous campfire rose twenty feet into the air; the entire camp group sat around the fire listening with bated breath to the

favorite camp songs, the camp prophesy, the farewell address, and finally before final taps was blown from the hill this simple word composed and read by one of the campers:

These are the things I see  
At night when I'm home in bed,  
When it's raining and black outside,  
And a car comes tearing ahead,  
When people are scraping the pavement,  
When the lightning awakens my thoughts,  
These are the things I see,  
These are my innermost thoughts.

I dream I'm out on a lake,  
On a lake in a green canoe,  
Perhaps I'll see the moon  
And a shooting star or two.

I reach out in the Water,  
It's soft as velvet and still.  
I slap the gunwales and hear  
The echoes rebound on the hill.

Or I may pull over the dam  
Down the winding stream to the town;  
If I do I'll hear the swish of my boat  
Mowing the lily pads down.

Often I wake up early  
And before I open my eyes,  
I hear that eerie cry of a loon,  
And see the grey mist rise.

I start and wake up to look,  
Expecting to peer through the trees,  
But there's naught but walls and a window  
With a telegraph pole beyond these.

And I think that this very same pole,  
Now strung with telegraph lines  
Once bore branches and leaves  
Like our own beautiful pines.

It's the little things I remember  
As the thoughts come fleeting back,  
The cluster of maidenhair ferns,  
The rock in the greenhouse track,  
The little stream that runs when it rains  
And looks so sad when it's dry,  
The lamp outside of the bunk,  
And trees silhouetting the sky;  
The bench at Betty's Beach,  
The bandage on Rummy's knee,  
The sparrows next to the mess hall,  
And the cat that climbed up the tree.

I'll surely remember the time  
When most of the trips were away,  
One of the younger fellows and I  
Climbed the hill on a windy day.  
"What makes the wind blow?" he asked,  
As he felt it sift through his hair;  
As he watched it ruffle the scrubby pines  
And rock-hugging junipers there.

And he sat down on the grass  
And looked up at the sky,  
And he watched it bring on the drops of rain  
And he heard it carry a cow-bell's strain,  
And he saw the clouds rushing by.

We climbed over rocks and boulders  
All covered with lichen and moss,  
Piled by the farmers for fences  
So the cows could not wander across.  
We looked on the hills—the near ones green,  
The ones in the distance—gray.  
The trees in front could be seen  
While the far ones were blotted away.  
We looked at the farms and towns,  
Fayette and Kent's Hill with the dome;  
We lifted the sod from a rock  
Where some ants had tunneled their home.

Yes, it all returns as a pattern  
Of varied and numerous dyes,  
With each color helping the whole  
Of the glorious plan they comprise;  
And as we gaze on this fire,  
We may place the web inside,  
Let the flames blend it together  
Into an inseparable tide.  
And then we can take the ashes,  
And place them away in our dreams,—  
To be rewoven next summer—  
Or only rewoven in dreams.

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## “Cap'n Bill”

*his Column*

STANDARDS OR MINIMUM ESSENTIALS FOR A COUNSELOR'S COURSE IN NATURE ACTIVITIES appear in the June number of THE CAMPING MAGAZINE. With one exception, I am acquainted with all the members of the C.D.A.A. Committee on Nature Activities. The material that they have submitted under the title given above is not what one would expect from such a committee. What they say is obviously for eight weeks with campers and has nothing to do with counselor training. What to give is one thing and how to give it is quite different. Then again, they would have you think that "subjects,"—

"plant study this week", "a review the sixth week" and "observations on atmospheric conditions the seventh week" is a plan that under certain conditions may "be perfect." I doubt if the individual members of the committee who work in camp would themselves give a "general review" on the eighth week yet that is set down as an "especial opportunity." They have used traditional school language and not camp language. After all that has been said and done about making camp nature study better why should these nature leaders—whom I admire for their usual clear thinking and leadership—get together and recommend that the "minimum essentials" be the study of "subjects?" Ought we not to train leaders to realize that nature is a good place in which to *live?* That nature is something that we can control and direct? Should not a counselor have a few objectives of nature activities? If the leader goes to camp with the sole idea of emphasizing fact to the exclusion of bodily health, better thinking, and enjoyable use of leisure time, that leader will fail. Successful activities in camp do not run on the "lesson in review" basis. A nature counselor is not a coach in subject matter. In most camps there is a stream of enjoyable activities. The camper selects but is not "assigned." The nature offerings must be interesting enough to compete with other activities. Traditional nature study is not concerned with education and often I think that it is an enemy. What does nature as a part of the camp program have to offer to make life better? What and how can nature activities contribute to good sportsmanship, co-operation, conservation?

Ever since there have been standards and minimum essentials for swimming leaders—and I concede that such standards are necessary for safety along the water front—there has been a periodical call for the same in nature study. Personally, I doubt if we have any practices

to standardize. You may ask, are there not any minimum essentials? Of course, there are. There are certain minimum essentials of knowledge,—such as knowing poison ivy, knowing the disastrous effects of a forest fire, knowing the importance of washing the hands before working with food. Knowledge does not guarantee habits. Along with knowledge, there must be certain attitudes in regard to the conservation of native wild flowers, the pollution of streams, and outdoor good manners. One should have certain skills, as in transplanting a tree, handling a snake, or making a whistle. The committee would do well to make a list of such classified minimum essentials.

Such a list, however, holds good for the camper as well as the counselor. It is not "minimum essentials" for a counselor's course. A considerable number of those taking a counselor's training course in nature leadership will have had college courses in biology and geology but relatively few will have had camp experience in leadership. The minimum essentials for a nature guide's certificate at Western Reserve are: Attendance at a training school for three seasons, a total of 18 weeks; 18 hours in biology; two hours in field geology; a course in outdoor leadership; and successful practice with children. At the present experimental stage, any move to certify a leader who has had a week's course is surely inadequate.

If the committee would tell us what the camp objectives in nature study should be in relation to the aims of education they would set the would-be counselor straight as to his thinking. If they can make a program for nature activities that meet the objectives of education, they will have gone one step nearer the desired end. Then if they will plan a course for training college bred biologists how to go to camp and do the job, they will make a real contribution. At present they have done none of these.

(Continued from page 10)

before them, and told of all the horrors of the flood, as floods go. All this made most heartrending reading matter for the public, but the most important things were not told: How when a sixty foot rise was endangering the lives of the children, the counselors were ready, if need be, to give their lives to save the campers, and to these counselors a great deal of praise and credit should be given. Those who were in the flooded district might have had great losses where not even one was lost, had not each counselor seen that the children in her charge were accounted for. As they were marooned on the hillside, it was the counselors who told funny stories to keep the children's minds from the horrors that were passing before their eyes, and cheers go up in praise of such counselors as these. I do not know their names, but the directors are lucky indeed to have with them such assistants, and the Southwestern Section is fortunate in having Directors who engage counselors who can stand the test. Directors brag of their counselors as being on duty twenty-four hours of the day, and of being ready to meet any emergency. Never was a test given more severely than this.

### News Items

This Section will meet in October, and we expect a full attendance. Many plans are made for the coming season and we look forward to a very full year.

Camp Wabun Annung did away with all trophies this year. We had been striving for this for some time, and we feel we have really reached a goal.

MRS. C. B. DEBELLEVUE, President.

### Did You Know? :—

That the first private camp was organized only 50 years ago—Camp Chocorua, founded by Ernest Balch in 1881?—

That in 1931 there were more than 6000 established camps,—about 1600 private camps and 4500 institutional camps, caring for more than 1,250,000 boys and girls?—

That in 1931 there were less than 500 Directors and Counselor members of your Association?—

That in unity there is strength and progress can be effected only through organization and co-operation?—

That Syracuse University has organized a four-year course for persons wishing to equip themselves scientifically as Camp Directors and leaders, and that they award a B.S. to those completing the course, with an M.S. to those completing an additional graduate course?—

That this column is being introduced into THE CAMPING MAGAZINE to convey to its readers in brief form bits of important information that may prove of value to them; and—

That contributions of such brief and important items will be gratefully accepted by the editor of this column?

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### For Your Bookshelf

CHILD AND UNIVERSE is a fine book for your Nature Counselor, and your Junior Camp Mother. The author is Bertha Stevens; publisher, John Day Co. It has beautiful full page illustrations from photographs of natural objects. The purpose of the presentation "is not accumulation of facts, but growth of the spirit".

CALICO BUSH, author Rachel Field, publisher, MacMillan, is an excellent story for the Junior Girls' Library Shelf.

William Bolitho's TWELVE AGAINST THE GODS has some excellent material to digest and pass on to boys. The last chapter on Woodrow Wilson is strong and most unusual. If your boys knew Bolitho's life story they would be greatly interested to know the content of his books.

If you find it difficult to keep in touch with good new books for your Juniors, you will find good suggestions in the New Children's Books Department of the *New York Times Book Review*. Its Editor's reviews give an excellent idea of the content and style, and state the age that can enjoy the book.

